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| APPLICATION NO.                          | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/037,818                               | 01/02/2002  | Jeffrey W. Parker    | 18406.004           | 6553             |
| 21878                                    | 7590        | 09/29/2004           | EXAMINER            |                  |
| KENNEDY COVINGTON LOBDELL & HICKMAN, LLP |             |                      | NOORI, MAX H        |                  |
| 214 N. TRYON STREET                      |             |                      | ART UNIT            |                  |
| HEARST TOWER, 47TH FLOOR                 |             |                      | PAPER NUMBER        |                  |
| CHARLOTTE, NC 28202                      |             |                      | 2855                |                  |

DATE MAILED: 09/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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| APPLICATION NO./<br>CONTROL NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR /<br>PATENT IN REEXAMINATION | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. |
|---------------------------------|-------------|---|---------------------|

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| EXAMINER |
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| ART UNIT | PAPER |
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20041024

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Commissioner for Patents


1. This is in response to Status Request filed on 9/14/04.  
The IDS filed on 01/02/02 already had the references (items K and M) shown in the Supplemental IDS (items AA and AB) of 12/05/03. Therefore the supplemental IDS is moot.

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Max H. Noori whose telephone number is (571) 272-2185. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday-Friday from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306. The central fax number is (703) 827-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MHN  
Friday, September 24, 2004

  
MAX NOORI  
PRIMARY EXAMINER